



# The Weekly Page

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 3

JANUARY 27, 2006

## Pages Learn About Legislature

### Board game simulates bill process.

On Monday, pages played a board game designed to simulate for them the process by which a bill becomes a law in Washington State. They came to understand that only about ten percent of the bills that are introduced actually become laws. They also experienced the frustration of having a bill "die" in the middle of the process.



### Repealing 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' In WA

Today, Representative Mickey Balderas introduced House bill 1000, which addresses the issue of discrimination in the military. "The bill is a good one because it ends discrimination and gives willing soldiers the chance to openly and honestly serve their country," said Representative Mickey Balderas. It stiffens penalties against harassment and preserves jobs. It will be illegal to discharge a service member on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill did not pass.

### Testing Teachers

Today, Representative Emily Ganzfried introduced House bill 1200, which addresses the issue of teachers who are not knowledgeable about their particular subject to accurately portray it to the students. "The bill is a good one because it shows that if teachers can pass standardized tests, the students will be better equipped to follow," said Representative Emily Ganzfried. This bill says that teachers must pass a test about their subject before they can be hired, and then once every year after that. It will eliminate the problem of students who are given incorrect

or incomplete information in the classroom. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan. 25, 2006. This bill passed.



### Abortion Kills

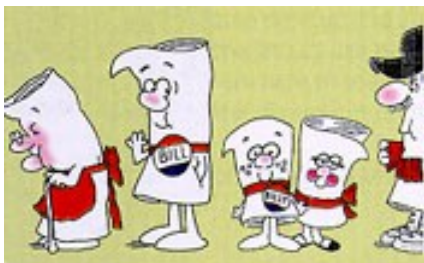
Today, Representative Michael Growt introduced House bill 1002, which addresses the issue of abortion. "The bill is a good one because more and more people are having babies but instead of giving birth to them commit abortion, which kills them, therefore we should make abortion illegal," said Representative Michael Growt. This bill will make it so that no one in the state of Washington will be able to commit abortion. I think this because if you have a baby then you should be able to handle it and be able to give birth to it, not just go off and kill it. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.



### Reducing Cigarette Smoking at Age 21

Today, Senator Mariah Thomas introduced Senate bill 6523, which addresses the issue of cigarette addiction at young age. "The bill is a good one because to many young people are having lung problems and money problems in there family because of cigarette addiction.," said Senator Mariah Thomas. There for I will be making a bill that states all persons under age 21 will NOT be able to receive and or purchase any tobacco items

if seen then they will be fined \$200. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.



### *I'm Just A Bill* video provides review of bill process

After playing the Bill Process Game, pages viewed the video *I'm Just A Bill*. Many of them stated that they remembered viewing this in elementary school. This short video accurately illustrates all of the steps in the process.

### What Did The Babies Do To You?

Today, Representative Shelby Matzke introduced House bill 1204, which addresses the issue of abortion. "The bill is a good one because many women just use it as a birth control and not take responsible for their actions. It shouldn't be against the law but have limits to them.," said Representative Shelby Matzke. This bill should reduce the amount of innocent babies killed. Abortions should be used only if reason to do so. Some just don't want to deal with it, but that's their fault. Then there are those who get raped and don't have any other option. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.



### WASL Requirements: Too Much To Handle?

Today, Representative Amber Miller introduced House bill 2685, which addresses the issue of WASL requirements for high school students in the year 2010. "The bill is a good one because it isn't easy passing the WASL, and it doesn't need to be any harder with time limits and very limited resources," said Representative Amber Miller. To allow students to give their best on the WASL, they need to be able to concentrate and not worry

about time limits. They need to be able to understand what they are being asked to do, so rephrasements should be allowed. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.

### Reducing Young Driver Limitations

Today, Representative Erik Moore introduced House bill 1256, which addresses the issue of altering the six-month law for new drivers. "The bill is a good one because it will allow young drivers who have spent more than six months with their permit to have the state recognize that," said Representative Moore. The bill changes the current six-month law so that rather than waiting six months after the driver gets their license, they now only have to wait 12 months after they get their permit to drive other people with a license. This keeps the same amount of required time, it just allows for more flexibility. The driver is still required to have at least 2 months of driving with their license though before driving non-family members. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. this bill passed.



### Abortion discouraged

Today, Senator Andrew Repsold introduced Senate bill 5678, which addresses the issue of Abortion. "The bill is a good one because it deals with a moajor issue of today and solves it," said Senator Andrew Repsold. It is a bill that will discourage abortion. It is so important and such a big issue that we all need to deal with it today. Every one should be there. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan.24, 2006.

### Pages write bills

Each page wrote a bill designed to solve a problem. Topics for bills included driving age, noise control, fewer school hours for high-schools students, and cell-phone use. They reflect real issues that affect teen-age lives in Washington State. Bills were printed so pages can keep them.

### The WASL Bill Has New Hopes Of Changing

Today, Senator Andrew Ried-Munro introduced Senate bill 6730, which addresses the issue of the Washington State WASL graduation requirement. "The bill is a good one because

it will change the graduation requirements so that the students do not have to pass the WASL to graduate,” said Senator Andrew Ried-Munro. This will be a new era. The WASL will no longer be the requirement to graduate, but it will be a "step" in the right education. This new bill will separate out the different levels of the students' learning abilities and decide which classes that student will take the following year. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.



### Choices For ORV Riders

Today, Senator Amanda Swantak introduced Senate bill 6776, which addresses the issue of Choices for ORV Riders. “The bill is a good one because this will make it to where the ORV riders have a place to ride and we aren't on private properties,” said Senator Amanda Swantak. This bill will be providing Riders a decent place to ride have fun and spent time with family and friends. They will be off private properties and on government properties. They will have to buy a pass to ride and if they do not have a pass they will have to leave or buy one. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill did not pass.

### Airport Security To Loosen Up.

Today, Senator AJ Wakefield introduced Senate bill 6273, which addresses the issue of airport security. “The bill is a good one because everyone who travels knows how annoying and embarrassing it is to get held up in security,” said Senator AJ Wakefield. This bill bans random searching in airports. It is intended to speed up security and protect the peoples right to privacy. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill did not pass.

### Pages lobby their own bills

Pages practiced lobbying techniques as they encouraged their colleagues to support their bills in committee hearings. They created posters and completed media releases for this newsletter.

### Destroying Traffic

Today, Representative Michael Watkins introduced House bill 1584, which addresses the issue of traffic on the highway. “The bill is a good one because it reduces the amount of people who

stop to look at an accident,” said Representative Watkins. The bill would prohibit news teams from driving to the accident. Without the news teams the traffic would lessen because people would be less interested than with an ambulance, a police car, and two news teams. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.

### Time Management

Today, Representative Joshua Golden introduced House bill 2674, which addresses the issue of time management. “The bill is a good one because it will help the house pages in their deliveries,” said Representative Golden. The pages should be allowed to use the elevators in their deliveries. The time that they spend walking up and down stairs can be used better elsewhere. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 26, 2006. This bill passed.



### Have Money For The Future

Today, Representative Joel Benjamin introduced House bill 3232, which addresses the issue of Higher Medicare Benefits. “The bill is a good one because Without this bill they may not be enough money for us when we get older,” said Representative Joel Benjamin. This bill will not only make sure that there will be enough money for us in our old age, but our children and their children's children. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.



### Our Elections Will Be More Accurate

Today, Representative Kristen Bohlig introduced House bill 1250, which addresses the issue of Voter Registration. “The bill is a good one because it provides a good way to keep up on



voter records and guarantee that only registered voters are voting,” said Representative Bohlig. This bill will require all registrants to provide both photo identification and social security number in order to register to vote. If voters don't have the proper identification they will not be allowed to register until they get the identification. This will require counties with mail-in elections to verify all of their registered voters before every election. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill did not pass.

### Committees debate bills, vote

Pages participated in simulated committee hearings on Wednesday. They read their bills and ‘committee’ members, governed by the rules of parliamentary procedure, debated the pros and cons of the bills. When pages voted on bills, some ideas were passed on to an imagined legislative body, while others did not pass and “died” in committee. In this newsletter, we have indicated which bills passed and which did not pass.



### Government Reimburses Livestock!

Today, Representative Therese Charba introduced House bill 1889, which addresses the issue of Reimbursing Livestock. “The bill is a good one because The government pays for crops destroyed by deer, but not livestock destroyed by wildlife predators,” said Representative Therese Charba. This bill ensures that livestock farmers won't hurt from loss of livestock. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.

### Fast Fishing Fun

Today, Representative Stephen Moreau introduced House bill 3333, which addresses the issue of fishing with only one fishing pole. “The bill is a good one because it enables fishermen to increase the rate in which they fish, thus making fishing a more enjoyable sport,” said Representative Moreau. This bill will enable fishermen to fish with more than one pole at a time. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25th, 2006. This bill passed.

### Bad Bass Infuriates Car Owners!!!

Today, Representative Amber Caughron introduced House bill 3333, which addresses the issue of Loud bass in cars. “The bill is a good one because car owners will be less distracted by the noise of surrounding bass, businesses will have more customers and children will have better hearing in the future,” said Representa-

tive Caughron. This bill will become effective 90 days after bill is signed, this will give vehicle owners time to be informed of the change. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.



### Hoover, Owen, Kirby visit, speak, answer questions

Representative Steve Kirby D-29, Lieutenant Governor Brad Owen, and Senate Counsel Mike Hoover joined the pages during their classes on Thursday. Each of them told students about how they came to be involved in politics and what led them to their current positions, and they discussed issues they are working on during this session. Pages were able to interact with these guests.



*Senate Counsel Mike Hoover speaks in Senate Rules Room*

### Changing Age for ‘R’ Movies to 16

Today, Senator Kristin Jackson introduced Senate bill 5936, which addresses the issue of reducing to the age of 16 to see a rated “R” movie. “The bill is a good one because when you are 16 years of age, you are mature enough to see a movie with sex, drugs, and alcohol,” said Senator Jackson. This bill is a good one because the theatres will make more money and also more people will be attending that will have ID when they are 16 because most 16 year olds have ID because they drive. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25th, 2006. This bill passed.

### Groundbreaking New Law Passed

Today, Representative Josh Farrar introduced House bill 1329, which addresses the issue of gas mileage for new vehicles. “The bill is a good one because it will save the environment and lower gas prices,” said Representative Farrar. This bill makes the sale of cars that get an EPA approved gas mileage of less than 15 miles per gallon illegal in the state of Washington.

Dealerships will have 6 months to get rid of vehicles that get less than 15 mpg. Some vehicles like buses, moving vans, and manufacturing trucks will be made legal by licenses available at the Capital, County Seats, City Halls, and Internet. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.

### Save The Environment

Today, Senator Joy Kacoroski introduced Senate bill 5169, which addresses the issue of loss of the environment. "The bill is a good one because it will make sure that there will be environment for your children or grandchildren," said Senator Joy Kacoroski. This bill will encourage people to save and preserve the environment, by using constructive ways. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.



*Lt. Gov. Brad Owen speaks to pages in his office*

### Protecting People From Drunk Drivers

Today, Senator Taylor Kenny introduced Senate bill 5001, which addresses the issue of drunk driving. "The bill is a good one because if this bill is passed it will protect the people who are affected by the actions of drunk drivers," said Senator Taylor Kenny. If the bill is passed it will provide safety for the people by heavily fining, installing a breathalyzer unit in their vehicle, or by putting the drunk driver in prison, depending on how many offenses the person has committed. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan. 24, 2006. This bill did not pass.



*Rep. Steve Kirby*

### Budget debate stirs emotions

Using actual state budget figures, pages debated how to balance the state's operating budget. Their task was to make up a \$3 bil-

lion deficit. "Is it always this hard?" asked a page as the debate intensified.

### New Bill On Zoo Standards

Today, Senator Luke Kneeshaw introduced Senate bill 5555, which addresses the issue of the treatment of animals in a zoo setting. "The bill is a good one because it helps to improve the lives of the zoo animals in the state of Washington," said Senator Luke Kneeshaw. This bill will help to make the lives of our animals more enjoyable, not to the public but to the animal. In the end it is the animal that matters, and in a lot of zoos in this state their needs are being neglected. I feel that passing this, and making it a law will provide our state with happier zoo animals, and will once again show that Washington is a compassionate state for all things that roam this earth. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.

### Lowering The Age To See "R" Movies

Today, Senator Samantha Alegria introduced Senate bill 5005, which addresses the issue of rated "R" movies. "The bill is a good one because it gives a possible profit raise for movie producers and entertainment for teenagers," said Senator Alegria. This bill gives teenagers sixteen and older something to do. It provides entertainment instead of being out on the streets. It also will raise the income of movies. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.



### Sidewalks Now A Necessity

Today, Senator Bryan Andrews introduced Senate bill 5001, which addresses the issue of traffic safety. "The bill is a good one because there are countless injuries, or even fatalities, each year that can be easily avoided," said Senator Andrews. 5001 will create a mandatory law, forcing builders to add at least one four-foot sidewalk, on all new roads exceeding 8 feet in width. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.

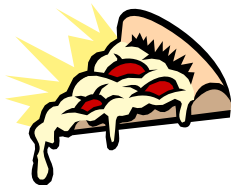
## Warning Before All Inappropriate Commercials

Today, Representative Jill Bakke introduced House bill 1042, which addresses the issue of Television Commercials. "The bill is a good one because it encourages television companies to place a warning before every inappropriate commercial," said Representative Bakke. The bill requires that before every inappropriate commercial, there will be a warning. Inappropriate commercials include anything containing violence, language or immodest clothing. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.



## Pages celebrate, mingle at Thursday pizza party

Thursday afternoon, pages took a break from their regular duties and socialized with each other while eating pizza. This was an opportunity for House and Senate pages to mingle.



## Store Owners, Watch Out!!!

Today, Representative Taylor Beach introduced House bill 2212, which addresses the issue of discrimination against left-handed people. "The bill is a good one because lefties are always encountering inconveniences," said Representative Beach. The bill is based on store owners not buying left-handed versions of stock, which is a big problem for left-handed people. "Why should we be treated unfairly just because we use our left hand more often than our right?" said Rep. Beach. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill did not pass.

## Later School Start

Today, Senator Donald Bellevue introduced Senate bill 5555, which addresses the issue of education. "The bill is a good one

because I believe it will help children in school," said Senator Donald Bellevue. If schools start at nine, students will be more rested and therefore, do better in class and on tests and quizzes. Teachers will also benefit from more sleep, and be able to help more children, and help them better. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill did not pass.

## Public High Schools Want Longer Lunches

Today, Senator Josie Daschel introduced Senate bill 7272, which addresses the issue of extending public high school lunch periods. "The bill is a good one because now students will be allowed enough time to be able to buy food, eat it, attend lunch meetings for their clubs, and then be able to make it back to class on time to learn," said Senator Daschel. The bill will extend the current public school lunch period by taking five minutes away from each class period. This will give the students enough time to eat and attend their meetings at lunch but at the same time doesn't disrupt the starting and ending times of the school day. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill did not pass.

## Drinking Age Bill Introduced Today

Today, Senator Patrick Dion introduced Senate bill 5001, which addresses the issue of the age at which youth are legally allowed to consume alcohol. "The bill is a good one because it allows people that vote or are eligible for the draft to drink alcohol," said Senator Dion. This bill will lower the drinking age from 21 years of age to 18 years of age. This bill will now enable the people of Washington State to consume alcohol when they turn 18. Nothing from the previous law will change except for the age group that they are applied to. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan. 25, 2006. This bill did not pass.

## Jeopardy creates hit

On Friday, pages tested their knowledge of the Legislative process in a spirited game of *Jeopardy*. Winning teams were awarded certificates and brightly colored stickers that they wore proudly for the rest of the day.



## Cell Phone Law Passed

Today, Representative Guy Hartwig introduced House bill 1078, which addresses the issue of talking on your cell phone



and driving. "The bill is a good one because it will keep drivers more focused on the road and most likely reduce car crashes," said Representative Guy Hartwig. This bill will create safer streets by police pursuing drivers that are talking on their cell phones. Police will also investigate the person of fault at a crash site to see if they were talking. If they were, their insurance will take 15% off of what they were originally going to cover. But don't worry you can still keep in touch with the outside world, this bill does not apply to those who use hands free devices such as head sets or speaker phones. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan. 25, 2006. This bill passed.

### 14 Is New Working Age

Today, Senator Paris Heart-Hester introduced Senate bill 7998, which addresses the issue of lowering working age. "The bill is a good one because it allows teens over the age of 14 to gain more professional work experiences," said Senator Heart-Hester. The bill will require employers across Washington to allow 14 year olds to apply and hire those who meet expectations of regular workers. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill did not pass.

### Page Transportation

Today, Senator Zebediah LaVergne introduced Senate bill 5544, which addresses the issue of transportation. "The bill is a good one because it gives pages a quicker way of delivery," said Senator Zebediah LaVergne. This bill is to help pages make quicker deliveries while being safe and getting exercise. We shall get the money through tolls if necessary. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill did not pass.

### Smoking Legal In Certain Buildings

Today, Representative Christopher Lewis introduced House bill 2765, which addresses the issue of smoking in public areas. "The bill is a good one because it lets owners of bars or pubs choose whether or not they want their building to allow smoking," said Representative Christopher Lewis. This bill allows buildings to choose whether their building allows smoking. On all the entrances there must be a sign informing guests of the fact that it is a smoking area. The owner must also fill out some paper work. If these steps are not taken then the building will be deemed eligible to transform into a smoking building for six months. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill did not pass.

### Page School teachers

Page School's 2006 teachers are (l-r): Paul Prociv, BJ Lutz, and Vicky Whinnery.



### Abortion Now Illegal In Washington

Today, Representative Betsy Mansfield introduced House bill 1991, which addresses the issue of abortion. "The bill is a good one because it will save thousands of lives in Washington alone and we will hopefully be a leader for the rest of the states to follow," said Representative Betsy Mansfield. This bill will cause there to be a fine for both the physician and patient for the first offence and will increase to a revoked medical license for the physician by the second offence. For the patient there will just be an increase in fines per offence until the fourth which will result in jail time. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.

### Reducing Speed In Neighborhoods

Today, Representative Marilyn Charba introduced House bill 2222, which addresses the issue of reducing speed limits. "The bill is a good one because it will reduce the amount of accidents caused by speeding," said Representative Marilyn Charba. This bill is a way to stop the accidents that happen in neighborhoods because of speeding. In order to do this speed limits will be put up and police will patrol the neighborhoods. If a person does not obey this law then he/she will be charged as speeding and will be fined \$101.00. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.

### What Is The Point Of Property Taxes

Today, Senator William Massart introduced Senate bill 7998, which addresses the issue of property tax. "The bill is a good one because it will remove taxes on houses," said Senator Massart. This bill would help the poor or elderly with paying for their houses. The bill would remove the taxes that were put together during the wars. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006.

## No Healthcare? No Problem!

Today, Senator McCaffree introduced Senate bill 7130, which addresses the issue of civilian healthcare. "The bill is a good one because it provides military-type healthcare for non-military people," said Senator McCaffree. The bill was created in order to provide military-style healthcare for civilians, non-military people. Speeding tickets and pharmaceutical taxing will provide funding for the project. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25th, 2006. This bill passed.

## Page School on the web

The Page School has its own web site. You can find us at: [www1.leg.wa.gov/WorkingwithLeg/PageSchool/](http://www1.leg.wa.gov/WorkingwithLeg/PageSchool/). This newsletter has been posted there.

## Explosive Fun While Hunting

Today, Senator Niles McDonald introduced House bill 1674, which addresses the issue of Social Reform. "The bill is a good one because it fully allows us to utilize our 3<sup>rd</sup> amendment right to bear arms," said Representative McDonald. This bill will allow for full retail of explosive weapons for the use of hunting at any retailer. The bill will also introduce a \$.03 tax for each dollar spent on these items to benefit veterans of foreign wars. The bill will allow us to use any explosive weapon (i.e. Grenades, landmines, SAMs, RPGs, NIBM, etc., for hunting. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 24th, 2006. This bill did not pass.

## Gay Marriage For Washington

Today, Representative Seamus McKeon introduced House bill 1000, which addresses the issue of Equal Marriage Rights. "The bill is a good one because it offers all the people of the great state of Washington equality and justice under the law," said Representative McKeon. By striking the prohibition of same-gender marriage from Washington's legal code and adding a section to explicitly permit the admission of these people to the marital institution, this bill effectively allows gay marriage in all cases. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 25 January, 2006. This bill did not pass.

## Sen. Meehan Imposes Bill That Will Let Senate And House Pages Finally Be At Pieces With Pieces Of Candy

Today, Senator Brendan Meehan introduced Senate bill 5624, which addresses the issue of The maintaining the pencils distribution of candy. "The bill is a good one because it lets the students of Page School enjoy candy without the stress of losing their pencil," said Senator Meehan. This bill is to keep the pages happier in class and more willing listen as it is very hard to listen without

support. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.

## Stop Reading While Driving

Today, Representative Andrew Moreau introduced House bill 3245, which addresses the issue of safe driving. "The bill is a good one because it will reduce accidents," said Representative Moreau. This bill will help to reduce accidents. There will be a fine of \$800. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.

## Free Speech Addressed

Today, Senator Tim Nelson introduced Senate bill 5111, which addresses the issue of free speech restrictions in school. "The bill is a good one because it will remove the punishment of students that are acting under our right of free speech," said Senator Nelson. This bill will require all teachers to sign an oath saying they won't punish students for expressing themselves. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.



## Can You Hear Me Now?

Today, Representative Katie Pitchford introduced House bill 1414, which addresses the issue of cell phone use in vehicles. "The bill is a good one because it will help reduce the reckless and careless drivers on our roads," said Representative Katie Pitchford. This bill allows cell phone users to have a portable headset that allows drivers to use the phones hands free. The police are given the permission to pull over anyone who violates this bill and fine them \$100. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.

## Groundbreaking Gun Laws

Today, Representative Christopher Post introduced House bill 2504, which addresses the issue of banning assault rifles. "The bill is a good one because it saves many innocent lives from ever being put into danger!" said Representative Post. This bill will keep assault rifles from being sold on the public market. It will now become a crime to sell assault weapons and is punishable by a fine or jail. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 25, 2006. This bill passed.